

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Patent and Trademark Office**Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/009,327	01/20/98	FASCI	M 1320.1015/JD

STAAS & HALSEY
700 11TH STREET NW
SUITE 500
WASHINGTON DC 20001

QM21/0707

EXAMINER

MUY, J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3727	7

DATE MAILED: 07/07/98

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No. <i>09/009327</i>	Applicant(s) <i>M. FASCI et al</i>
Examiner <i>J. Moy</i>	Group Art Unit <i>3727</i>

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Response

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a response be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for response is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication .
- Failure to respond within the set or extended period for response will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/19/98.
- This action is FINAL.
- Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) 4-6, 13, 14, 23 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- Claim(s) 1-3, 7-12, 15-22, 24 is/are rejected.
- Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.
- The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
- received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
- received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

Attachment(s)

- Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- Notice of References Cited, PTO-892 Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948 Other _____

Office Action Summary

Serial Number: 09/009327
Art Unit: 3727

Applicant's election of species of Figs. 1-12A, namely claims 1-3, 7-12, 15-22 and 24 without traverse has been acknowledged.

Claims 4-6, 13, 14, and 23 are withdrawn from consideration as drawn to the non-elected invention.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3, 7-12, 15-22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hasselmann in view of Koelichen. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to substitute for the connectors of the containers of Haaselmann, the connectors of Koelichen in order to be arranged in any desired orientation to promote the handling process.

Any inquiry concerning this office action will be directed to Examiner Joseph Moy, (703) 308-1145.

Fax No: (703)305-3579

Date: 07/01/98



JOSEPH M. MOY
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 3200